

sile organ in a very subordinate manner only. This defect is compensated by the development of an additional sharp denticle at the inner base of each claw, and of a spine vertically projecting from the flexor side of each finger and toe, which must immensely strengthen the power of the animal for holding on to branches, &c." *

The posterior extremities are short, the legs very short and thick; and the outer and inner toes are shorter and much thicker than the others, as in *Nyctinomus*; but they are not fringed with long hairs. The feet are remarkably large, and much rotated outwards and forwards, so as to allow of easy progression. The structure of the sole of the foot and of the inferior surface of the leg is very peculiar, and is well shown in the accompanying woodcut (fig. *b*). The plantar surface, including the toes, is covered with soft and very lax integument, deeply wrinkled; and each toe is marked by a central longitudinal groove with short grooves at right angles to it, as in the genus *Hemidactylus* (Geckotidæ). The lax wrinkled integument covering the sole of the foot is continued along the inferior flattened surface of the ankle and leg.

All these peculiarities of structure must accompany some corresponding peculiarities in the habits of this species. As the denticle at the base of the claw in *Rampholeon spectrum* evidently compensates that animal for the shortness of its tail, which is so effective a prehensile organ in other Chameleons, so I have no doubt the denticle at the base of the claw in *Mystacina tuberculata* compensates that species exceptionally for the imperfect condition of the fore limbs as organs of prehension; and this, taken into consideration with the peculiar manner in which the wings are protected from injury when not employed in flying, and with the manifestly adhesive nature of the sole of the foot and inferior surface of the legs, lead me to believe that this species hunts for its insect food, not only in the air, but also on the branches and leaves of trees, among which its peculiarities of structure most probably enable it to walk about with security and ease.

6. Descriptions of five new Species of Land-Shells from Madagascar, New Guinea, Central Australia, and the Solomon Islands. By HENRY ADAMS, F.L.S., and GEORGE FRENCH ANGAS, C.M.Z.S. & F.L.S.

[Received May 29, 1876.]

(Plate XLVII.)

HELIX MALANTENSIS, n. sp. (Plate XLVII. figs. 1, 2, 3.)

Shell imperforate, trochiform, rather solid, faintly obliquely striated, whitish, ornamented with several broad or narrow fulvous or dark chestnut bands, brown at the base; spire turbinate; whorls

* P. Z. S. 1874, p. 443, with a woodcut.



1



3



2



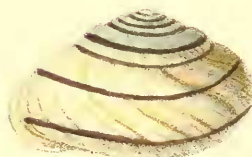
4



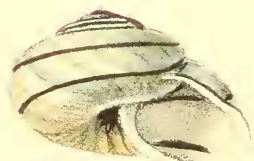
5



10



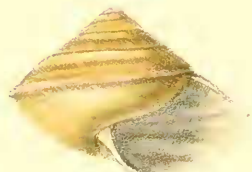
6



7



11



8



9



12

G.B.Sowerby lith.

Hanhart imp

LAND SHELLS FROM NEW GUINEA,
MADAGASCAR, & AUSTRALIA.

5½, rather convex, the last descending in front; aperture oblique, quadrately lunate; peristome white, margins converging, united by a faint callus, right margin slightly sinuous, a little expanded and reflexed, columellar margin dilated above and a little excavated.

Diam. maj. 25, min. 22, alt. 22 mill.

Hab. Malanta Islands, Solomon Archipelago.

This species differs from *H. guadalcanarensis*, Cox, in being more conical, in the last whorl being less inflated, descending in front, and not angled at the periphery, and in the aperture being smaller, and the outer lip much less flattened and expanded, as well as by the absence of the black margin at the angle of reflexion behind the outer lip, and the purple spot on the columella, and in having the base broadly stained and zoned with chestnut.

HELIX COMRIE, n. sp. (Plate XLVII. figs. 4, 5.)

Shell imperforate, conically semiglobose, rather solid, rugosely spirally grooved, and obliquely finely striated, opaque, whitish; spire conoidal, obtuse; whorls 4½, rather convex, the last descending, subangulated at the periphery, somewhat flattened at the base, and a little excavated behind the aperture; aperture diagonal, oval-oblong, pale brown within, peristome white, margins converging, united by a thin callus, right margin sinuous, rather expanded and reflexed; columellar margin dilated and appressed.

Diam. maj. 27, min. 21, alt. 20 mill.

Hab. Shores of Huon Gulf, South-east New Guinea.

This interesting species is allied to *Helix brumeriensis*, Forbes, but is rather smaller in size, and without the characteristic black lip of the latter. It was discovered by Dr. Comrie, of H.M.S. 'Basilisk,' after whom we have named it. In the same locality Dr. Comrie obtained several specimens of *Helix brumeriensis*, hitherto known only by the single specimen in the British Museum, collected by the late Mr. J. McGillivray at Bruner Island, during the voyage of H.M.S. 'Rattlesnake,' in August 1849.

HELIX ROBILLARDI, n. sp. (Plate XLVII. figs. 6, 7.)

Shell umbilicated, orbicularly subglobose, rather solid, obliquely striated, whitish, with a pale brown shining epidermis, and ornamented with three very narrow dark brown bands, one being sutural; spire depressedly conical, apex obtuse; whorls 5, moderately convex, the last descending in front and somewhat flattened at the base; umbilicus open, funnel-shaped; aperture diagonal, truncately oval, pale brown within; peristome with margins approximating, united by a thin callus, the right margin slightly flexuous, expanded, and a little reflexed; the columellar margin thickened, reflexed, and dilated above.

Diam. maj. 32, min. 27, alt. 20 mill.

Hab. South-west Madagascar (*Coll. Sir D. Barclay*).

HELIX FENERIFFENSIS, n. sp. (Plate XLVII. figs. 8, 9.)

Shell narrowly umbilicated, depressedly trochiform, carinated, very

thin, subpellucid, shining, pale olive-green, finely obliquely striated throughout and decussated above with very minute concentric rugose striæ: spire conical, apex obtuse; whorls 6, nearly flat, the last not descending in front, inflated below; aperture diagonal, large, angularly elliptic; peristome thin, simple; columellar margin slightly reflexed over the umbilicus.

Diam. maj. 33, min. 27, alt. 24 mill.

Hab. Feneriffa Islands, North-west Madagascar (*Coll. Sir D. Barclay*).

HELIX EYREI, n. sp. (Plate XLVII. figs. 10-12.)

Shell widely umbilicated, subplanorbular, rather thin, obliquely striated, and under the lens minutely granulated, light brown, pale below; spire flattened; whorls 5, a little convex, the last rounded and slightly descending; aperture oblique, lunate; peristome flesh-coloured, margins approximating, thickened, and slightly expanded.

Diam. maj. 17, min. $14\frac{1}{2}$, alt. $6\frac{1}{2}$ mill.

Hab. Shores of Lake Eyre, Central Australia.

This is another species of the peculiar discoidal group of *Helices* (*Angasella*, A. Ad.) from the arid regions of Central Australia, to which *H. cyrtopleura*, Pfr. and *H. phillipsiana*, Ang., also belong.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XLVII.

Figs. 1-3. *Helix malantensis*.

4, 5. — *comriei*.

6, 7. — *robillardii*.

8, 9. — *feneriffensis*.

10-12. — *eyrei*.

7. Notes on the Birds of the Navigators' and Friendly Islands, with some Additions to the Ornithology of Fiji. By E. L. LAYARD, C.M.G., F.Z.S., &c., H.B.M. Consul at New Caledonia.

[Received May 24, 1876.]

Recent visits to the Navigators' and Friendly archipelagos having enabled me to extend my knowledge of the avifauna of these two groups of islands, so intimately connected with the ornithology of Fiji, I offer the accompanying remarks for publication in the Proceedings of the Society as a sequel to my 'Notes on Fijian Birds' (P. Z. S. 1875, p. 423).

I will take first in order the Navigators', and give a list of the known species, commenting on them as I proceed.

1. *STRIX DELICATULA*, Gould.

This Australian White Owl is common throughout the islands, and is the only Raptorial bird known on them. I frequently put it up from among the cotton-bushes planted in rows between the cocoa-